

APPENDIX A – DEFINITIONS

Authorized Representative: A person authorized by a property owner to act for him or her, in their stead.

Bedroom. Any space in the conditioned (heated) area of a dwelling unit which is 70 square feet and greater in size and which is an exterior room shall be counted as a bedroom unless it is one of the following:

- Hall
- Bathroom
- Kitchen
- Living Room (maximum of one per dwelling unit)
- Dining Room (opening off of the kitchen or living room, maximum of one per dwelling unit)
- Family Room (opening off of the kitchen or living room, maximum of one per dwelling unit)
- Breakfast Nook (opening off kitchen, maximum of one per dwelling unit)
- Pantry (maximum of one per dwelling unit)
- Laundry Room
- Closet/Dressing Room opening off of a bedroom.

Sewing rooms, dens, offices, studios, lofts, game rooms, and any other exterior room 70 square feet and greater in size shall be counted as bedrooms regardless of whether they are entered through a door, unless the room is otherwise exempted.

The City Planner may grant exceptions if, in his/her discretion, a room cannot, by its design, function as a bedroom.

Construction / Repair Permit: the commercial activity involved in repairing old structures or constructing new ones.

Designated Agent:

Failed System: Any sewage disposal system that does not adequately treat and dispose of sewage that consequently creates a public or private nuisance or threat to public health and/or environmental quality, as evidenced by, but not limited to, one or more of the following conditions;

- (1) Failure to accept sanitary sewage into the OWTS.
- (2) Discharge from an individual OWTS of wastewater either directly or indirectly to a subsurface drain, surface drain, wetland, or surface water body.
- (3) Effluent rising to the surface of the ground over or near any part of an OWTS or seeping down-gradient from the absorption area at any change in grade, bank or road cut.
- (4) Discharge of improperly treated effluent to ground or surface waters resulting in contamination of ground and/or surface waters due to contaminants or nutrients.
- (5) Inadequate treatment and disposal of wastewater due to deterioration, damage, or improper design of any OWTS. (For example inadequate separation distance from the bottom of the leaching system to groundwater or impervious layer, damage from a vehicle driven over a leachfield, etc.)

- (6) Pumping records that indicate very frequent septic tank pumping. A system shall be considered in need of repair or alteration if the system has been pumped or in need of pumping two or more times in a calendar year and if not pumped the OWTS would result in effects described above.

Health Officer: The City's Health Officer or designated representative. This shall be defined as staff from the Humboldt County Division of Environmental Health Department unless or until such time that the City Council designates its own Health Officer. References to Health Department shall also mean Health Officer.

Homeowner Questionnaire

Human habitation:

Inspection Report Form

Limited Operating Permit

Major Repair. Any kind of alteration or replacement of a malfunctioning individual sewage disposal system except those defined as minor repairs or minor maintenance.

Minor Maintenance. Replacement of septic tank baffles, tees, ells, tops, or sewer lines.

Minor Repair. Replacement of effluent filter, sanitary T ..., or other minimal repair work not requiring a construction / repair permit as determined by the Health Officer.

New construction: shall mean the construction of a new building, or the construction of an addition to, the alteration of, or the remodeling of an existing building which results in an increase in habitable space or other heated or otherwise conditioned space within the building. Further, the construction of any new structure within a setback from a component of a wastewater disposal system required at the time the system was installed shall be deemed to be "new construction." "Conditioned Space" shall mean living space in a residence or detached building that is insulated and/or is provided with the ability to be heated or cooled. Unheated garages and workshops are examples of non-conditioned space.

Nonstandard system

On-site Wastewater Treatment System (OWTS): A system installed to provide sanitary sewage disposal by means other than discharge into a sewer system.

-or-

Onsite sewage treatment systems: includes individual disposal systems, community collection and disposal systems, and alternative collection and disposal systems that use subsurface disposal. The short form of the term is singular or plural, as appropriate. (AB 885)

-or-

Individual Sewage Disposal System. means a septic tank and drainfield or other approved means of sanitary disposal of sewage. This may include any of the following types of systems: (Santa Cruz)

- a. Conventional System. An individual sewage disposal system which utilizes a septic tank (with or without a lift pump) and leaching trenches or pits.
- b. Standard System A conventional system which is constructed in accordance with the specifications for a standard system as described in Sections 7.38.095 through 7.38.180 of this Chapter.

- c. Nonstandard System. A system which is not in conformance with all the standards contained in Sections 7.38.095 through 7.38.180 of this Chapter. Nonstandard systems include alternative systems, nonconforming systems, and haulaway systems.
- d. Nonconforming Sewage Disposal System. A conventional sewage disposal system design that provides for insufficient leaching area as described in Section 7.38.150.a.3, that is in soils that percolate in the range 60 - 120 MPI, that requires seasonal haulaway of effluent to function properly and meet required groundwater separation, or which is not in compliance with other requirements for a standard system contained in Sections 7.38.095 through 7.38.180. Use of a nonconforming system requires use of water conservation devices.
- e. Alternative System. An individual sewage disposal system which uses nonconventional technology for enhanced effluent treatment and/or disposal.
- f. Haulaway System. An existing individual sewage disposal system, for which the Health Officer has ordered that the outlet of the septic tank, or other sewage holding container, be permanently or seasonally sealed, and the accumulated sewage pumped out and hauled away to an approved disposal site.

Operating Permit: A permit issued by the OWTS Administrator based on site performance.....

Owner: Homeowners associations will be considered the owner of the property for condominiums and townhouses for the purpose of enforcement of this code if the actual owner is not responsible for the OWTS.

Person:

Qualified Service Provider: is a qualified professional or an individual with knowledge and competency in OWTS operation, maintenance, and monitoring, determined by the City to be qualified to perform septic inspections in the City.

Reserve Area:

Sewage: Waste substance, liquid or solid, which is associated with human habitation or which contains, or may be contaminated with human or animal excretion or excrement, offal or feculent matter, or matters or substances that may be injurious or dangerous to health.

Standard Systems

Qualified professional: is an individual who, by virtue of education, training, and experience, is qualified to perform soil and/or site evaluations and the design of OWTS. A qualified professional is capable of determining site-specific soil properties, geologic factors, and hydrologic conditions. (AB885)

Qualified service provider: is a qualified professional or an individual with knowledge and competency in OWTS operation, maintenance, and monitoring through... (AB885)

Trinidad OWTS Program: The entire Program includes the Trinidad OWTS Ordinance, Appendices (including the Guidelines), the Trinidad Sewage Disposal Regulations and the Trinidad OWTS Water Quality Monitoring Program.

Trinidad Sewage Disposal Regulations consists of the Humboldt County Division of Environmental Health Departments "Sewage Disposal Regulations", as updated from time to time, unless or until such time that the City Council adopts their own Sewage Disposal Regulations.

OWTS Administrator shall be responsible for coordinating activities between the City, the *Health Officer*, the *Qualified Service Provider*, and the homeowner, for keeping a list of *Qualified Service Providers*, for receiving homeowner's surveys and inspection reports, for upkeep of the database, for issuing operating permits and for assuring provisions of this ordinance are being met or taking the necessary steps to assure the purposes of this ordinance are being met. Initially this will be the City Planner until such time the City Council designates an alternative to fulfill this role.

Inspector:

Sensitive Resource Areas:

Repair

Upgrade: Partial or total replacement of a septic system that is functioning properly.